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Headteacher of Ladbrooke JMI School

June 2007

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AGM was held on June 19th at Birchwood Leisure Centre, Hatfield. The turn out was virtually non-existent. With the exception of those parents on the committee, only one parent attended and he is actually Chairman of Selectors for HBA. It was very disappointing as it seems that parents are not particularly interested in the running of badminton in Herts as long as their children get to play and things run smoothly.

The committee was voted into office again with the exception of Hazel Levins, who is standing down as Manager/Coach of the U11 Development Group. Ken Winchester (chairman) thanked Hazel for all her hard work over the years. Sangeeta Dhall is taking over and was voted onto the committee.

As a footnote, just think of the present. Quite a number of the committee are either at, or getting towards, retirement age. Isn't it about time some others stepped forward to take over? The future of Herts junior badminton is in your hands.

H S B A County Trials

All trials are held at the Herts Sports Village, Hatfield. Please register at least 15 minutes before the start time.

U17 Trials (players born in 1991/1992)

Sunday, September 16th

Time: 2.00 pm

Contact: Tony Clarke (01992 586727) or Pat Walker (01992 422073)
(e-mail: pat.walker@auchy.com)

U15 Trials (players born in 1993/1994)

Results Team Event **1 England** 2 Scotland 3 Ireland 4 Wales

Individual

Doubles	L Bromley/E Westwood (ENG) bt S Chambers/R Roddis (IRE) 21-17, 18-21, 21-17 C Pollock/M Campbell (SCO) bt S Cappleman/S Dobson (ENG) 16-21, 21-13, 21-15
Singles	E Westwood (ENG) bt S Chambers (IRE) 18-21, 21-9, 21-11 S Dobson (ENG) bt S Cappleman (ENG) 21-15, 21-17
Mixed Doubles	S Dobson/E Westwood (ENG) bt D Panagopolous/S Chambers (IRE) 14-21, 21-17, 21-18

U17s Runners-up at SHIRES LEAGUE Final

Phil Westwood

IN SPORT, as in life, there are times when you need an element of luck. At the Shires League Finals, for reasons that could occupy an article in themselves, the semi-final line-up is drawn from a 'hat'. Now having striven all season to win a regional league, to qualify for these finals, and having come through a first round seeing-off a regional league runner-up, to have one's fate dictated by chance can be hard. But this moment of theatre does produce tension and drama; just as Chelsea can draw Liverpool in the FA Cup. And that is exactly what happened: "Hampshire will play... Yorkshire; Hertfordshire will play... Essex." The acknowledged two strongest teams had been paired, and a quiet "Yesss!" could be heard in the area of the Herts camp.

Actually the first round play-off is also drawn, pairing a regional league winner with a runner-up, but this is not so critical.

In the absence of a national junior inter-county league the Shires League has grown quite dramatically over the last few years, as more and more counties apply to join. But it still has its roots in the regional format, and a more suitable arrangement for the finals is elusive. The first round had seen Herts face Flintshire, as they had at ICT, and secure a comfortable 16-4 win. Then came the tension of that semi-final draw, and relief for Herts. Herts' semi-final against Essex produced some close games, but Herts came through as winners by 14 to 6. Hampshire meanwhile gained a 13-7 win over a Yorkshire side depleted by tournament calls elsewhere. So it was Hampshire and Hertfordshire who stepped out for the final. To have any chance at all, to gain momentum and to put pressure on this very able Hampshire squad, Herts really needed to win the balance of the opening round - the mixed. All four games were very close but the sequence ended with Herts 3-1 down, from which they never recovered. Hampshire were all round too strong, taking the tie 13-7, proving worthy winners whilst Herts, on the day, were well deserved of their second place, although Yorkshire might disagree having beaten Essex, by a greater margin than did Herts, to take third place.

This was the last call for this happiest of squads; most will next appear for the senior county. So there are places aplenty up for grabs, and a chance for a new young side to build for next year, and the year after.

Tournament Results

U16 Kent

Girls Singles Final Helena Lewczynska lost to Hayley Rogers (Ch) 11-15,15-10, 13-15

Girls Doubles Final **Helena Lewczynska**/Hayley Rogers (Ch) beat Bryony Morris (Sx)/
Vikki Primmer (Bk) 15-10, 15-13

Mixed Doubles Final Ralph Pedersen (Mx)/**Helena Lewczynska** lost to Daniel Groom/
Emma Smethurst (Ke) 13-21

U14 Kent

Boys Singles Final **Ryan McCarthy** lost to Steven Cappleman (Ha) 1-15, 11-15

Boys Doubles Semi-final **Ryan McCarthy/Elliott Miles** lost to Philip Fenner (Sx)/Jack
Kinmond (Bk) 14-15, 13-15

Mixed Doubles Final **Ryan McCarthy**/Rachel Gauntley (Ex) beat Tom Stanford (Bu)/
Nicola Trafford (Ke) 10-15, 15-13, 15-9

U14 Warwickshire

Boys 'A' Singles Semi-final **Ryan McCarthy** lost to Jack Kinmond (Bk) 14-16, 15-13, 12-15

Boys 'B' Doubles Quarter final **Steven George/Howard Stobo** lost to Jack Adcock/Fergus Lynam
(Nm) 10-15, 11-15

Girls Doubles Quarter final Christina Nettleton (Yo)/**Claire Widdicombe** lost to Mina Clark
(Ex)/Sophie Sankey (Bu) 14-16, 6-15

Semi-final Rachel Gauntley (Ex)/**Isabelle Sadler** lost to Mina Clark/Sophie
Sankey 6-15, 6-15

U12 Berkshire

Boys Singles Quarter final **Mark Sadler** lost to Alex Lane (Dv) 9-21

Boys Doubles Semi-final **Max Hodgkinson/Mark Sadler** lost to Alex Lane (Dv)/Sam Parson
(Wk) 11-21

U12 Essex

Boys Doubles Quarter final **Max Hodgkinson/Mark Sadler** lost to Harrison Simcock/Sean
Vendy (Bu) 17-22

Junior Leagues

The Junior Leagues have been slightly disappointing this year. There were no matches played in the U15 or U18 girl's leagues and the U12 girl's league consisted of Gazelles, Much Hadham and Swifts.

The boys fared a little better, particularly at U15, where 5 clubs entered teams. The U12 boys league matches were not completed with some clubs either unable to field teams, or unable to find a suitable date to play matches.

The U18 medley, with 2 teams, was played, but the U18 boys and the U15 medley leagues, with just 2 teams in each, were not completed.

The results are as follows:

U12 Girls

WinnersGazelles

Runners-up Swifts
3rd Much Hadham

U12 Boys

WinnersStanstead Abbots

Runners-up Swifts
3rd SCOBE
4th Hitchin

U15 Boys

WinnersSwifts

Runners-up Comets
3rd Baldock
4th Stanstead Abbots
5th Much Hadham

U18 Medley

WinnersBaldock

Runners-up Swifts

From the editor:

Thanks to Phil Westwood, without whom there would be no newsletter this time. Closing date for the next one is **Thursday, August 30th**.

Megan Lumb, 16 Strafford Gate, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 1PN